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are of immense value. It is to be regretted, however, that the author should feel an antagonism, which he expresses often in language bordering on satire, against the scientific work of criminologists, which he does not seem adequately to comprehend. This attitude is particularly manifest in the first chapter on *The Criminal and the Criminologists*, while the second chapter on *Heredity and Crime*, reveals a lack of biological training on the part of the writer which disqualifies him largely for making valuable criticisms in this field. The lack of English investigation in scientific criminology is not compensated for by flings at continental theorists. That there is much to be criticised in the claims of the positive school no one will question, but arguments are best answered by arguments and little is gained in the way of clearness by mere references to them as "pseudo-scientific jargon."

The positive discussions contained in Parts II and III, on *Common Causes in the Causation of Crime and the Treatment of Criminals*, are enlightening and extremely valuable and here the author finds himself most at home and for which his training as medical officer in the prison at Glasgow for many years has best qualified him. We cannot agree with Professor Murison in his introduction that "the book is most illuminating and the wisest that has ever been written on the subject," but it is a book to be read by every student of the science,—one in which much valuable information has been packed, and one which will prove a mental stimulant even if one does not agree with all his conclusions.

J. P. LICHTENBERGER.

University of Pennsylvania.

Morgan, S. A. *The History of Parliamentary Taxation in England.* Pp. xvii, 317. Price, \$2.00. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co., 1911.

When David A. Wells established the prizes, one of which has been awarded to this essay, he laid down six "thou shalt not" commandments, in the following language: "No subject shall be selected for competitive writing or investigation and no essay shall be considered which in any way advocates or defends the spoilation of property under form or process of law; or the restriction of Commerce in times of peace by Legislation, except for moral or sanitary purposes; or the enactment of usury laws; or the impairment of contracts by the debasement of coin; or the issue and use by Government of irredeemable notes or promises to pay intended to be used as currency and as a substitute for money; or which defends the endowment of such 'paper,' 'notes' and 'promises to pay' with the legal tender quality." Although these provisions of the founder's will suggest a desire to establish an entail in certain economic views, yet it is clear that if essays like this are not in contravention of the rules the entail is not dangerous.

Of these essays Professor Theodore Clarke Smith in a preface to the present volume says: "Since it," (the competition), "is confined to students and graduates" (of not more than three years' standing) "of a college which offers no post-graduate instruction, it is not intended to require original

research, but rather to encourage a thoughtful handling of problems in political science." The result in this case is a great relief from the "dry-as-dust" demonstration of indefatigable research which a doctor's thesis too often becomes. Without being in any sense puerile, the style of the essay is lively and the book will be found to be very readable, as well by those who are specially interested in its somewhat technical subject as by others. In fact there is a proneness to the selection of the more picturesque material and an occasional choice of language that leads one to suspect that the guiding hand of the late Professor Henry Loomis Nelson, under whose instruction the essay was begun and of Professor Smith the final editor, may have been needed occasionally to suppress the exuberance of youth. That the leash slipped occasionally will be shown by the following passage from page 211: "... the woeful struggle of Henry, bleached-out in mind, a dependent upon the efforts of a woman against the rising power of York; . . ." Still, making an essay of this sort more readable by such means is a pardonable fault if not an added grace. The only sense in which it is at fault is that in giving so much space to events in English history, which it might be assumed the reader would know, it curtails the space available for a fuller discussion of the special topic in hand.

It is not a gracious task for the reviewer to act as proof-reader on a finished book, yet the separation of the subject from the verb by a comma on page 68 and again at the bottom of page 94, and a sentence without expressed subject or verb, on page 135, as well as the rather too frequent omission of little words like "the" and the conjunctives, in an effort at sprightliness in style, are among the slips noted.

The essay gives in a clear and logical manner the main events in the development of the power of parliament over taxation from the first clear hint of the curbing of the power of the king in the twelfth and fourteenth chapters of the Magna Carta to the Bill of Rights of 1689. Of the latter the essayist says, on page 306: "In the matter of taxation, it sums up in a few clauses the whole principle which had been in course of evolution since the German chieftains received gifts of cattle and fruits from their people." With this the essay closes.

CARL C. PLEHN.

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Paterson, A. *Across the Bridges.* Pp. xiv, 273. Price, \$1.70. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1911.

Nothing can be of richer interest than an insight into the multifarious vicissitudes of human life. In terse English, clever style and with unusual directness the author of this book tells us what he saw "Across the Bridges" and speaks of the life, hopes, trials and ambitions of the endless poor of East London. Embellishment with incidents, color and illustration, all add to the power and vitality of the story.

There is a brief but vivid account of the streets, homes and external environment of the poor. Then follow two chapters on their life and habits,